

REMARKS

The application includes claims 23-30 and 32-63 prior to entering this amendment.

Claims 23-28, 33-38, 40-41, and 43-57 have been amended.

Claim 29 has been cancelled.

New claims 64 and 65 have been added.

The applicant does not add new matter and requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

March 1, 2011 telephone interview

A telephone interview was conducted on March 1, 2011 between Michael A. Cofield, attorney for applicant, and Examiner Olujimi A. Adesanya. During the telephone interview Mekikian was discussed. Proposed amendments were then discussed, namely proposed amendments to specify that a generated answer to the query is based on both the particularly-claimed first and second comparison of claim 23. An agreement was reached that the proposed amendments appear to overcome the rejection of record based on Mekikian.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 23, 25, 32-34, 39, 43-45, 50, and 53-63 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mekikian *et al.* (WO 2001/0188662).

Claim 23, as amended, recites “a response generator coupled to the rules engine, the response generator configured to generate a query response based on a content storage search via a semantic index of said selected information retrieval technology, the response generator configured to display the generated query response as an answer to the query.” It has not been alleged that Mekikian discloses this feature, nor does it, as noted in the telephone interview summary above. Thus, claim 23 should be allowed. Claims 25 and 32, being dependent, should be allowed for at least the same reasons. Claims 33-34, 39, 43-45, 50, and 53-63 recite at least similar features and thus should be allowed for at least similar reasons.

The Examiner rejected claims 24, 26-30, 35-38, 40-41, 46-49, and 51-52 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mekikian in view of Lin *et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,675,159).

Claims 24, 26-28, 30, 35-38, 40-41, 46-49, and 51-52, being dependent, should be allowed for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims. Claim 29 has been cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 44-54 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph in view of the terms “article of manufacture”.

Although the specification does provide written description support for the claim terms “article of manufacture”, in the interest of expediting prosecution the claims have been amended. Claims 44-54, as amended, no longer recite the terms “article of manufacture”. Thus, the rejection is moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected claims 44-54 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 in view of the terms “computer readable medium”.

Claims 44-54, as amended, no longer recite the terms “computer readable medium”. Thus, the rejection is moot.

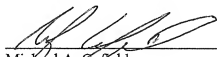
CONCLUSION

The applicant does not add new matter and requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application. The applicant encourages the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at 503 546 1811 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Customer No. 73552

Respectfully submitted,

STOLOWITZ FORD COWGER LLP



Michael A. Coffield
Reg. No. 54,630

STOLOWITZ FORD COWGER LLP
621 SW Morrison Street, Suite 600
Portland, OR 97205
(503) 224-2170